



Regular Meeting of the City Council
August 13, 2025 - 6:00 PM Hybrid Meeting

a. Call to Order

Mayor Julia Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

c. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Julia Johnson, Councilmembers JoEllen Kesti, Paul Cocke, Kevin Loy, Joe Burns, Sarah Diamond, Allan Henderson, and Nick Lavacca.

d. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to approve the agenda with the addition of an executive session. Motion carried (7-0).

e. Consent Agenda

Note: Items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine in nature and may be adopted by the Council by a single motion, unless any Councilmember wishes an item to be removed. The Council on the Regular Agenda will consider any item so removed after the Consent Agenda.

Councilmember Lavacca requested to have Item 1 removed from the consent agenda and Councilmember Henderson requested items 4, 5, 6, 8 and 11 to be pulled for more discussion.

Motion made by Councilmember Lavacca and seconded by Councilmember Henderson to approve the consent agenda items 2, 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, 13, and 14. Motion carried (7-0).

Motion made by Councilmember Henderson to approve items 4, 5, 6, and 11. No second.

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Lavacca to approve items 4, 5, 6, and 11 on the consent agenda. Motion carried (7-0).

Motion made by Councilmember Burns and seconded by Councilmember Diamond to approve item 8 on the consent agenda. Motion carried (6-1). Councilmember Henderson opposed.

1. Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - July 23, 2025
2. Check Register - Off-Cycle

3. Check Register - Regular
4. Resolution 1166-25 - Authorized Change Fund
5. Grant Application Approval - Transportation Improvement Board - Arterial Preservation Program
6. Grant Application Approval - Transportation Improvement Board - Cascade Trail 2A
7. Purchase - Firefighter Protective Gear
8. Purchase - Fire Command Vehicle
9. Purchase - Solid Waste Division Roll Off Containers
10. 2025-205-CN - Washington State Office of Public Defense - Simple Possession Advocacy and Representation
11. 2025-PW-13 - Change Order 1 - SR20/Reed St Temporary Signal
12. 2025-PW-24 - Contract Renewal - Municipal Building Elevator Maintenance
13. 2025-206-IA - Skagit County, Cities of Anacortes, Burlington, and Mount Vernon - EMS Training Hub
14. Appointment to Planning Commission - Madison Bowman

f. Introduction of Special Guests and Presentation

1. Swearing In of Police Canine Yogi and Officer Cody Velthuizen

Mayor Julia Johnson swore in Police Canine Yogi and Officer Cody Velthuizen.

g. City Administrator Report

1. Next Council Meeting - Joint City Council Study Session and Planning Commission - Tuesday, August 19, 2025, at 6:30PM

Mayor Julia Johnson spoke on behalf of City Administrator Charlie Bush to remind the City Council there would be a Joint Study Session and Planning Commission Meeting next Tuesday, the 19th, of August 2025 at 6:30pm in the Council Chambers.

h. Councilmember and Mayor's Report

Councilmember Loy attended a meeting with a group of people against the battery facility. He shared that the group hired a lawyer for questioning, and reminded the City Council of the Skateboard Competition this Saturday, August 16, 2025.

Councilmember Kesti thanked Public Works Director Bill Bullock for taking her on a field trip to the John Liner round about, and she wanted to know when the Community Center would be back up for rent.

Councilmember Kesti attended the fair, and she recognized Kevin Loy for starting the cheer-leading competition. It was a remarkable success.

Councilmember Diamond started with the continued complaints of speeding on State and Ferry Streets and concern about the beginnings of new graffiti seen around town.

Councilmember Diamond had questions regarding the Family Promise lease agreement and how the lease would be overseen if the property changed hands. Planner Nicole McGowan and City Attorney Nikki Thompson addressed Councilmember Diamonds' questions.

Councilmember Diamond shared that the Sedro-Woolley Little League is looking at the option of hosting fall clinics for girls ages, 10-14. She advised interested applicants to reach out to the Sedro-Woolley Little League or contact her directly.

Councilmember Henderson had a follow-up question regarding the Special Events Ordinance 2041-23. Mayor Julia Johnson announced it would be brought back to the City Council Study Session scheduled for September 3, 2025.

Councilmember Cocke wanted to thank Public Works Director Bill Bullock and Engineer Peter Lane for the tours on the new roundabout located at McGargile and Township St plus the new Olmsted Park, and noted he attended the free concert at Northern State.

Councilmember Cocke attended the information session on the Family Promise behind the Methodist Church and enjoyed the Summer Concerts this year.

Councilmember Burns mentioned residents had expressed concern regarding the Special Events Ordinance 2041-23 and was happy to hear we would be getting back to it for a discussion, and shared that he has a ride along with the Police next week, and encouraged others to reach out if interested.

Councilmember Lavacca mentioned he has been going around Olmsted Park, roundabout and construction and was pleased with the progress, because school will start and the deadline.

Councilmember Lavacca spoke about neighborhoods such as Talcott, Nelson and Bennett and the roadwork that needs to be done, and he has seen other projects being done on Garden of Eden and Minkler Rd and wants the city to educate the community regarding road maintenance and encourages the City Council to begin a slush fund and tighten our budget for road maintenance and repairs.

Councilmember Lavacca stated he would like more information regarding the Community Center shooting and as much information as we can give the public, especially if we are looking into policy changes.

Mayor Julia Johnson addressed the question regarding the Community Center shooting and asked Police Chief McIlraith to respond. Police Chief Dan McIlraith responded that it is still an open investigation, no one has been charged for the crime and there is no more information to be released at this time.

Mayor Julia Johnson announced two more meetings with county commissioners, mayors, and city councils for North Star. The scheduled dates are September 30th, 2025, from 6pm-8pm and the other, November 6th, 2025, from 6pm-8pm. The other item from North Star on the 9th of September, from 6pm-8pm, is called Building our Future From House Crisis to a Thriving Community with a discussion on housing in Skagit County.

Mayor Julia Johnson shared that Senator Keith Wagner and Representative Carolyn Eslick were given the Behavior Health Champion Award.

Mayor Julia Johnson shared that she had been interviewed by Channel 13 News regarding the BESS project. The interview was posted on Stewards of Skagit if you want to see that interview, and she reminded the council that the discussion regarding special events will take place September 3rd, 2025, and a discussion about the Community Center will take place on September 10th, 2025.

Mayor Julia Johnson thanked the Council regarding the hiring of a Human Resource Manager.

- i. Proclamation(s)**
- j. Public Hearing(s)**
- k. Public Comments**

Please keep comments to three minutes or less. Because State law prohibits the use of city facilities for the purpose of supporting or opposing a campaign or ballot proposition, we respectfully request that public comment not make reference to such matters.

Written comments will be accepted by letter or via email at finance@sedro-woolley.gov Attn: 'Public Comment' until 4:30pm the day before the meeting.

A public comment period was held.

Audrea Woll and Dennis O'Neil made a public comment.

- l. Unfinished Business**
- m. New Business**
- n. Information Only Items**
 - 1. Monthly Building Permit Summary
- o. Executive Session**

Discussion with Legal Counsel About Current or Potential Litigation (RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)).

At 6:55pm, Mayor Julia Johnson announced the City Council, City Administrator Charlie Bush, along with City Attorney Nikki Thompson would be in executive session for 15

minutes to discuss current and potential litigation to return at 7:10pm.

At 7:10pm, the council returned. No action was taken.

p. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Kelly Kohnken

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Kelly Kohnken, City Clerk

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:

Julia Johnson

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Julia Johnson, Mayor